

Music's ability to uplift and calm...and how it can be harnessed in the language teaching classroom

Webinar handout

by Chris Walklett

Introduction

Select a song with a strong, clear theme/message suitable for your classes level.

Use some of the ideas in the session (or that occurred to you whilst in the session) to construct materials that could be used in a lesson.

Think!

- How could I start the activity?
- What language should I focus on?
- What could be done with the theme within the song?

Choose one of two types of song:

Songs to uplift and calm

Select from

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- Songs with positive messages
 - Songs that deal with overcoming difficulties
 - Songs that can change the way we feel

Songs to educate and enlighten (culturally, politically etc.)

Select from

- Songs that challenge convention in some manner
- Songs that help us understand diversity
- Songs about the environment / sustainability

Read more British Council articles about using songs in the language classroom:

<https://www.britishcouncil.org/voices-magazine/how-use-songs-english-language-classroom>

<https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/using-songs>

<https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/professional-development/teachers/knowing-subject/articles/developing-pronunciation-through-songs>

<https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/teaching-resources/teaching-secondary/activities/beginner-a1/using-songs-classroom>

A recording of Chris' webinar can be watched here:

<https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/news-events/world-teachers-day-2023/world-teachers-day-2023-friday-6-october>